## **REMARKS**

Consideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested.

Claims 17-31 are pending in the application. Basis for new claims 17-31 can be found at original claims 1-16. The claims have only been amended to remove reference numbers to the Figs., to replace "characterized in that" with "wherein," and to remove multiple dependencies. No claims have been amended to overcome prior art or to narrow the claim breadth. No new matter has been added. The full doctrine of equivalents applies to each claim element.

Early and favorable action on the merits are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Manelli Denison & Selter, PLLC

Ву

Jeffrey S. Melcher Reg. No.: 35,950

Tel. No.: 202.261.1045 Fax. No.: 202.887.0336

Customer 20736

2000 M Street, N.W., 7<sup>th</sup> Floor Washington, D.C. 20036-3307